

Alaska State Library
Historical Collections

Guide to Collection

de Laguna, Frederica

Frederica de Laguna Papers, bulk 1930-1978

MS 299

22 boxes

Processed by: Jim Simard, 2017

ACQUISITION: Collection donated by Marie-Françoise Guédon, executrix to the de Laguna estate. Acc.# 2017-023.

ACCESS: The collection is unrestricted.

COPYRIGHT: Request for permission to publish or reproduce material from the collection should be discussed with the Librarian.

PROCESSING: Original order has been retained where it can be discerned. The collection has been inventoried at folder or file level. Selected materials, particularly original field notes, have been scanned for access and preservation. Scans have been retained in the Alaska State Library Historical Collections. The original documents have been transferred to the Smithsonian Institution, National Anthropological Archives, as per donor's instructions and Dr. de Laguna's previous arrangement.

HISTORICAL / BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Frederica de Laguna, student of Franz Boas and Professor of Anthropology at Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania, became well-known for her field work in Alaska. From 1930 to 1933, she conducted archaeological excavations on Prince William Sound and Cook Inlet in Southcentral Alaska. In 1935, she led an archaeological and geological survey in the middle and lower Yukon River Valley. When Frederica de Laguna returned to Alaska in 1949, she began a long-term, joint ethnological, archaeological, and historical study of the Northern Tlingit Indians of Southeastern Alaska: at Angoon in 1949 and 1950, and at Yakutat and other communities in 1949, 1952, and 1954.

Inspired by one Yakutat clan's traditional telling of ancestral migration from the Copper River in central Alaska, de Laguna conducted ethnographic investigations among the Atna (Ahtna) Athabaskans of the Copper River and their neighbors on the upper Tanana, in 1954, 1958, 1960, and 1968. During the first of her three seasons among the Atna, she worked in collaboration with Dr. Catherine McClellan of the University of Wisconsin, Madison, who co-authored the final report on that work. Frederica de Laguna was accompanied by Marie-Francoise Guédon during the final season of work. Guédon was then a graduate student at Bryn Mawr College, and is now a professor in the Department of Comparative Religion at the University of Ottawa.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

Personal papers consisting of field notes and associated documentation of field work conducted by Dr. de Laguna in Alaska.

INVENTORY

SERIES 1: Original Field Notes 1930 – 1968

Box 1

- 1930a Prince William Sound – Eyak & Chugach
- 1930b Notes before and during trip
- 1930c Cook Inlet
- 1930d Prince William Sound
- 1931a Cook Inlet Kachemak Bay
- 1931b Cook Inlet Kachemak Bay Archeology
- 1931c Cook Inlet Archeology and Ethnography
- 1931d Cook Inlet Archeology
- 1931e Includes Tlingit – Boy's Story
- 1932a Cook Inlet Archeology
- 1932b Cook Inlet Archeology
- 1933a Prince William Sound Eyak
- 1933b Chugach Ethnology
- 1933c Chugach Ethnology
- 1933d Prince William Sound most archeology

Some Chugach Ethnology

1935a Yukon River

1935b Nenana

Questions on Atna – mostly unanswered

Box 2

1933 Chugach Ethnography (3 ring binder)

1949 Diary Angoon and Hood Bay

Box 3 Original Field Notes, 1950 Juneau, Haines, Klukwan, Hoonah, Angoon – small notebooks (loose pages)

- 1 1950 Arctic Inst. of N. America and Viking Fund Expedition
- 2 1950 June 3 Juneau
- 3 1950 June 8
- 4 1950 July 13 Juneau Haines
- 5 1950 Klukwan and Haines
- 6 1950 June 15
- 6a 1950 June 16 July 13
- 7 1950 Davis July 21
- 8 1950 Olaf Abrahams
- 9 1950 Helen Bremner
- 10 1950 Sobolofs
- 11 1950 Andrew Davis, Billy Jones, Mr. Peck
- 12 1950 Eiseley and Jepsom's
- 13 1950 Mary Willis
- 14 1950 Minnie Johnson
- 15 1950 Hunting Fishing Tlingit Language
- 16 1950 Notes
- 17 1950 Outboard Motor Instructions
- 18 1950 Angoon and Vicinity
- 19 1950 William Howard Juneau
- 20 1950 Hoonah Foster & Dale June 3
- 21 1950 Unidentified
- 22 1950 Notes Taken at Juneau
- 23 1950 Mr. Paul

Box 4 Hand written field notes and Photo descriptions

Chugach Prehistory, Prince William Sound, Hoonah and Angoon, 1950

Folder

- 1 Photo Inventory: Alaskan Negatives: 9 x 12 cm.
1930, 1931 1-40
Southeastern Alaska (Wrangell Narrows, Petersburg), Prince William Sound, Kachemak Bay and Cook Inlet, Southwestern Alaska (Kodiak, etc.), Cordova, Old Eyak, Eyak people, photos in The Eyak Indians
1933 Prince William Sound Negatives 40-
Eyak, Plates for Chugach Prehistory

- (91 note pages)
- 2 Chugach Prehistory plates with notes. (94 items)
- 3 Plates for Chugach Prehistory and notes regarding archaeological finds. (46 items)
- 4 Archeological field notes, Daxatkanada near Angoon (90 pages)
Detailed descriptions of area excavation contents, soil and midden descriptions, and post hole measurements
- 5 Ahtna - Copper River genealogies, 1968 draft field work charts and notes by Frederica de Laguna and Marie-Françoise Guédon. (66 items)
- 6 Sea hunting, witchcraft, doctors (26 note pages)
- 7 Clothing (12 note pages)
- 8 Photo descriptions, 1950 Angoon (159 note pages)
Match photos and negatives in binder that arrived June 2015
Binder contains copies of photo descriptions also
Archeological records of Daxatkanada, photo descriptions of site and findings, and informants John and Martha Kukash, Larry Jackson, excavation notes: depths, layers and surfaces, artefacts
- 9 Newspaper clippings Juneau Empire September, 1999 regarding grave robbing/ preservation of Tlingit heritage items by Emmons, repatriation of Angoon Beaver prow 117 years after Angoon bombardment. (6 items)
- 10 Slaves (5 note pages)
- 11 Fishing techniques and fish drying (16 note pages)
- 12 Life crises, life cycles (13 note pages)
- 13 Tools and utensils (14 note pages)
- 14 Travel arrangements for 1950 research trip to Angoon. de Laguna, Catherine McClellan, Llyod Collins, and Frances Riddell (16 items)
- 15 Map of excavation site?
Angoon Killer Whale design, shown on house
Corporate Charter of the Angoon Community Association Alaska, 1939 (3 items, 9 pages)
- 16 Linguistics-Tlingit dialect (1 page)
- 17 Potlatches (18 pages)
- 18 Houses and caches (9 pages)
- 19 Social life (3 pages)
- 20 Names and rank (3 pages)
- 21 Hunting and land (12 pages)
- 22 Plants and food and medicine (13 pages)
- 23 Beach food (5 pages)

Box 5 Chitina, Atna

Binder

- 1 Valdez Chitina (Copper River Chitina 1954 copy 1 File #1 on spine)
- 2 Copper Center (Diary Summer 1954 Atna #2 on spine)
- 3 Summer 1954 Diary Atna
- 4 Copper Center 1954 (copy 1 File #3 on spine)

- 5 Copper R. File copy 1954
- 6a Photo descriptions, 1954; rolls 1 and 16
- 6b Photo descriptions, 1954; rolls 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 16
- 7 FA Riddell 1953 Yakutat, Dry Bay, Akwe River
[see color slides: 1953- rolls 2, 10 and 11]
- 8 Yakutat 1954 [notes taken from cemetery headstones]
- 9 Yakutat Songs 1954

Box 6 Copper Center (3 ring binders)

Binder

- 1 Copper Center June 27, 1958
- 2 June 15, 1958
- 3 Copper Center July 7, 1958
- 4 deLaguna & McClellan field notes typed 1959.
- 5 Copper River de Laguna 1958 [diary June 13 to Sept 11]

Box 7 Yakutat

Binder

- 1 1960 Notes: Contents
- 2 Copper Center July 9, 1960
- 3 Typed by McC 1969. July 18, 1960
- 4 1960 Notes, Vol 2
- 5 Copper Center Aug 16, 1960
- 6 (Ethnographic photos, book plates, and miscellaneous we keep re-assessing. 11-8-94) Copper Center, 1960
- 7 1960 field notes to accompany recordings. Field trip to Copper River. FDL and CMcL (*housed in box 6*)

Box 8 Yakutat 1968 (3 ring binders)

Binder

- 1 Gulkana, Copper Center, Cantwell, Chistochina
6/16/1986 Inventory of audio recordings.
- 2 Atna Chistochina, Copper Center
7/22/68
- 3 Gulkana, Atna, Copper Center
8/11/68

Box 9 Atna (Kin), Yakutat Songs, Telin Recordings, Holikachuk Masks

Binder or Folder

- 1 Notes by Marie-Francoise Guedon
Kinship
- 2 Kinship Notes
- 3 Various drafts of treatment on Atna Kinship by de Laguna
- 4 Tetlin Recordings 1964 Descriptions of audio reels.
- 5 Catalog of Holikachuk Masks, 1935

SERIES 2: Yakutat Biographical Cards**Box 1 of 1**

Notes on Yakutat individuals, arranged alphabetically.
Includes notes on Songs and Specimens

SERIES 3: Yakutat Census Spiral Notebooks**Box 1 of 1****Notebooks**

- 1 Weather, Birds, Animals, Plants, etc. 1953(4) (1 notebook)

Yakutat Census English Names (2 notebooks)

- 2 Yakutat Census English Names A-I
3 Yakutat Census English Names J-End

Yakutat Census Tlingit Names (6 notebooks)

- 4 I 1-136
5 II 137-194
6 Kwock'qwan 300-399
7 Teqwedi I 400-495
8 Keqwedi II 496-524, Kalix-kag-wantan 600-675
9 No title on cover

- 10 Yakutat Tribes Names (1 notebook)

Comp Books

- 1 1978 Yukon Island
2 1985 Kodiak
3 1986 Yakutat. Juneau photos and my party
4 1987 Hartley Bay B.C.
5 1989 Freddy de Laguna Summer in Alaska
White Horse Storytelling
Historical Bibliography
Athabaskan Ceremony

SERIES 4: Tlingit Vocabulary Cards (in Recipe Boxes)**Box 1 of 1**

RecipeBox 1- Land Animals, Sea Mammals, Animal Parts, Birds-Land, Birds-Shore, Water, Sea, Bird Parts, Fish, Insects, etc., Marine Invertebrates, Fish-Marine Parts, Seaweeds, Human Body, Trees-Brush, Tree Parts/Tree, Plants, Berries, Foods, etc., Disease/Hurts, Medicines, Minerals/Stones, Cooking/Fire Smoking, Heirlooms, Buildings.

RecipeBox 2 – Household Utensils, Women's Tools & Equipment, Men's Tools, Wood Work, Cord/Rope, Baskets, Weaves/Materials, Clothing Cradle, Ornaments, Face Paint/Tattoo, Artist's Things, Paints/Color/Dyes, Harpoon/Spear, Bow/Arrow, Misc. Weapons, Hooks/Gaffs, Nets/Fish Traps, Traps/Snares, Boats, Snowshoe/Sled Parts, Ceremony/Music/Dance, War, Games, Shamans, Witches, Death/Ghosts/Graves, Spirits.

RecipeBox 3 – Supernaturals, Magic, Persons-Notes/Types, Tribes/Clans, Kin, Land, Shore, Sea, Tides, Winds/Local Names, Weather/Air, Cosmology, Counting Numbers, Space, Time of Day, Today/Tomorrow, Moons/Seasons, Locatives, Prefix, ? and Other Particles, House Names, Misc.

RecipeBox 4 – Place Names : Tongas-Haida, Tongass I, Sanya II, Stikine III, Henry IV, Klawak V, Kuyu (Kuiu) VI, Kave VII, Sumdum VIII, Taku IX, Auk X, Chilkat XI, Chilkat R., Hootsnuwu XII, Sitka XIII, Hoonah XIV, Gulf Coast Hoonah XIV, Dry Bay XV, Yakutat XVI, Kaliakh XVII, Misc.

RecipeBox 5 - Personal Names

SERIES 5: Yakutat Field Notes (arranged by subject)

Box 1

Folder

- 1 Ethics and Manners
- 2 Religion
- 3 Afterlife - Soul
- 4 Witches
- 5 Land-otters
- 6 Shamans
- 7 War and Peace
- 8 Named Houses and Occupants
- 9 Houses
- 10 Clan Heirlooms
- 11 Potlatches #1 General
- 12 Potlatches #2 Specific
- 13 Yakutat Life Cycle 2
- 14 Yakutat Life Cycle 1
- 15 Kinship

Box 2

Folder

- 1 Yakutat Geography
- 2 Games
- 3 Specimens
- 4 Canoes
- 5 Skins

- 6 Fishing
- 7 Animals1
- 8 Animals2
- 9 Bats
- 10 Cosmology
- 11 Sea foods
- 12 Medicine

Box 3 – Personalities**Folder**

- 1 Vocabularies
- 2 Photographs,
- 3 Annie George and Family
- 4 Abraham Adams
- 5 Emma John Ellis
- 6 Frank Dick and Katy Isaac Divorce
- 7 Harry Johnson
- 8 M-R
- 9 T-W
- 10 Emma Ellis.

SERIES 6: Teikweidi's Daughter / Minnie Johnson**Box 1****Folder**

- 1 Minnie Chapter 1, Introduction to Yakutat
- 2 Minnie's Family chapter 3
- 3 Minnie Chapter 5 Port Mulgrave
- 4 Empty
- 5 Chapter 7 Bringing up children
- 6 Chapter 9 Death of Minnie's Father
- 7 Tek-eesh Shamans
- 8 Minnie's Kin II
- 9 Heirlooms Xosat Forced Marriage
- 10 Puberty
- 11 Skunk Cabbage and Skookum Root, Funerals, Heirlooms, Russian Traditions, Arrows, Hunting Gear,
- 12 Tables to Do
- 13 Spelling Tlingit words and names
- 14 Before Minnie was born, bringing up children
- 15 The Mission, Minnie's childhood
- 16 Old fashioned things
- 17 Death and Reincarnation

Box 2**Folder**

- 1 Marriage to Bill Gray, Old Fashioned Cures
- 2 Death of Bill Gray
- 3 Charley Johnson
- 4 People, Genealogies
- 5 Adopted Children
- 6 Family
- 7 Peace Dances
- 8 Childhood memories of Aka
- 9 Witchcraft
- 10 Married Life I, Houses and Graves
- 11 Trips in SE Alaska – Sitka early 1900, Angoon 1926
- 12 Notes on Houses
- 13 Married Life II – Death and Midwifery

Box 3**Folder**

- 1 Geography
- 2 Yakutat Graves - 1959
- 3 The Modern Scene
- 4 Situk and Khantaak
- 5 Field Notes
- 6 Yakutat 1949
- 7 1952
- 8 1954
- 9 Hunting camp, sealing camp, travels

Box 4**Folder**

- 1 Yakutat Mission Notes and Publications
- 2 Box of Field notes material for Minnie Johnson 1954
- 3 Cruise of the Steamer Rush (copy) and Mad Rush for Gold in the Frozen North (copy)

Box 5 (3 ring binders) (loose envelopes of negatives & print of map not scanned)**Binders**

- 1 Yakutat Songs and Stories
- 2 Under Mt. St. Elias Notes and Descriptions not used

SERIES 7: Eyak**Box 1****Folder**

- 1 Typed and hand written notes: Eyak Myth. Alder People and Sun People. Chugach Myths, Wasilla, Port Graham Natives

- 2 Synonymy, Eyak Subgroups and Clans, Habitat, History
- 3 Correspondence with Professor Michael Krauss and Trustees for
Alaska.
- 4 Boarderlands Conference 1989, clippings and newspaper articles, letter to
San Francisco Chronicle from Jen-Ann Kirchmeier.
- 5 Clippings
- 6 Clippings
- 7 A preliminary sketch of the Eyak Indians
- 8 Cordova Eyak Film 1994. Composition Book, diary and notes.

Maps and Diplomas

Box 1

Maps (2)

Kachemak Bay, Alaska
South Central, Alaska

Diplomas and Certificates (4)

- [in Latin, from Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania, baccalaureate?
degree dated June 2, 1927]
- [PhD from Columbia University in New York, June 6, 1933]
- [membership, National Academy of Sciences of the United States of
America, April 22, 1975]
- Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching at Bryn Mawr College, dated
June 1973